The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER #20 OF 2014

WHEREAS, direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals (referred to in this preamble as "direct support professionals") are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term supports and services for millions of individuals; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide a broad range of support to include: preparation of meals, helping with medication, bathing, dressing, daily affairs, mobility, getting to school, work, religious, and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, these professionals must build a close, trusted relationship and enable individuals with disabilities to live successfully in the community to avoid more costly institutional care; and

WHEREAS, the majority of support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings and this trend is projected to increase over the decade; and

WHEREAS, there is a documented critical and growing shortage of these professionals in every community throughout the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby designate the week beginning September 8, 2014 as "Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week" in Centre County.

ADOPTED this 9th day of September, 2014.

ATTEST:

Denise L. Elbell

Director of Finance/Deputy Administrator

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steven G. Dershem, Chairman

C. Ohris Exarchos

Michael Pipe